Expansion of Air India Fleet

147- SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether any decision has been taken by the Public Investment Board to allow Air India (AI) for expansion of its fleet costing Rs- 1,100 crores for purchase of two Boeing 747-400s engines from Piatt and Whitney;

(b) if so, when the same are expected to arrive in India;

(c) whether Air India has also invited financial bids from Global Exim Instituaons; and

(d) If so, what is tire response from them?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) and (b) The Public Investment Board, in its 419th meeting held on 29-12-94 recommended for Government's approval, the proposal of Air India for acquisition of two B747-400 aircraft fitted with Pratt and Whitney engines, at an estimated cost of Rs. 1137-70 crores-Subsequently, the proposal was approved by the Government and the two aircrafts are expected to arrive in India in July and August, 1996-

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Corruption charges against ITDC Officials

148- DR. SANJAYA SINH: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) what are the details of corruption charges against the officials of ITDC including its Chairman which are pending at present;

(b) Since when those are pending;

(c) whether it is a fact that the present Chairman of ITDC has oeen on probation for the last more than three years and if so, since when;

(d) whether it is also a fact thai the appointment of the Chairman is being regularised notwithstanding the corruption charges against him;

(e) whether those charges were enquired into by the CBI and Central Vigilance Commission and if so, the details of their findings and action taken thereon; and

(f) if the reply to part (d) above be in the affirmative, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) and (b) Corruption charges made by different quarters are examined by the Vigilance Division of ITDC and other Agencies. If the Charges are substantiated, disciplinary action is initiated. At present a total of 35 such cases are pending. These involve a total of 86 officials of ITDC. The charges pertain to:

!. Administrative Irregularities

(a) LTC claims.

(b) disproportionate assets.

(c) misuse of official position

(d) submission of fake SC|ST certificates.

(e) submission of bogus educational certificates.

(f) filling up of ACRs of fellow employee.

(g) shortage of duty free shop items.

(h) Non-realisation of amount from party who stayed at Hotel.